## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a cross-linkable polymer compound which can be developed with an aqueous developer and exhibits excellent patterning properties; a photosensitive composition containing the same; and a pattern formation method employing the composition. The polymer compound containing monomer units represented by formulas (I) to (III):

$$\begin{array}{c} -\left(CH_{2}-\overset{R_{1}}{C}-\right)_{1} \\ & \overset{C}{C}-O^{-}\left(CH_{2}-CH_{2}-O\right)_{p} H \end{array} (II) \\ & \overset{R_{2}}{C}-O^{-}\left(CH_{2}-CH_{2}-O\right)_{p} H \\ & \overset{R_{2}}{C}-O^{-}\right)_{m} \\ & \overset{C}{C}-O^{-}X^{+} \\ & \overset{R_{3}}{O} \\ & \overset{R_{3}}{C}-CH_{2}-\overset{C}{C}-CH_{2}-CH_{2}-O^{-}C-\overset{R_{4}}{C}-CH_{2} \\ & \overset{R_{3}}{O} \end{array} (III)$$

wherein each of  $R_1$  to  $R_4$  is hydrogen and/or a methyl group; p represents an integer between 1 to 10 inclusive; X represents hydrogen, an alkali metal, or an ammonium represented by formula (1):

wherein each of  $R_s$  to  $R_s$  represents hydrogen, a C1-C3 alkyl group, or a C1-C3 alkanol group; and a plurality of Xs may be the same or different from one another, the compositional proportions of the monomer units falling within the following ranges: 2 mol%  $\leq$  1  $\leq$  73 mol%; 8 mol%  $\leq$  m  $\leq$  83 mol%; and 15 mol%  $\leq$  n  $\leq$  80 mol%.